CORE TOP THE LOT

Core are taking the somewhat shocking success of *Thunderhawk* in a cool "Oh we've seen it all before" manner. The truth is though, while most commentators rated it as a top five game, few

***Thunderhawk*: Action packed arcadey chopper sim with appeal**

would have been brave enough to predict first fortnight sales of 15,000, and the number one position after one week.

Core spokesman Richard Barclay commented: "We fully expected it to go straight in at Number One. I don't think there's a game which has had this much effect on the chart since Mirrorsoft's *Turtles*."

So will there be a *Thunderhawk* sequel? "We wouldn't do that just on the basis of its chart position and sales. To say 'Oh yes, we're planning *Thunderhawk 2*' would be a cliché. We will storyboard some possibilities, but there's been no decision yet."

Core enjoyed the delights of a number one position with *Corporation* last year, and no sequel is planned for that, although "we may produce a game along similar lines, but we won't be playing up any *Corporation* connection." In the meantime, Core are on the licence trail, with a 3D racing game pencilled in for Easter. Barclay reckons it'll be "another Number One".

BUNNY BONANZA

When *Ninja Rabbits* first popped onto the scene in the spring, most normal people figured it to be a pretty cheap and unoriginal idea. But cheap and unoriginal ideas have a habit of sticking, and the rabbits

Move over pizza dudes. Those loitering *Ninja Rabbits* are proof that the tackiest ideas are often the most profitable.

have been loitering around the top end of the charts for months.

Clearly, Micro Value don't have the artistic sensitivity of Core, and a sequel is being polished off as you read this. This time there's more gameplay in the beat-'em-up and prettier graphics, but the price will once again stay at £6.99. It'll be out within the next few weeks.

AMIGA POWER GALLUP CHARTS

AMIGA TOP 100

***** Exceptional ***** Nearly there **** Very good *** Has its moments ** Flawed * Grim

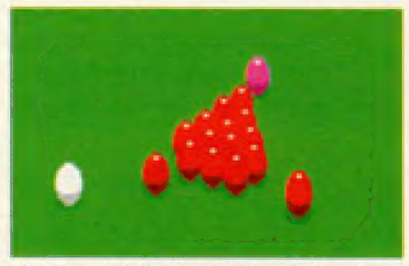
1 (NE) THUNDERHAWK Core Design £30.99 *****
2 (NE) NEW ZEALAND STORY Hit Squad £7.99 *****
3 (2) FULL CONTACT Team 17 ***
4 (10) TV SPORTS FOOTBALL Mirror Image £9.99 **
5 (NE) SUPERCARS GBH £7.99 ***
6 (11) NORTH AND SOUTH Action Sixteen £7.99 ****
7 (4) THE SECRET OF MONKEY ISLAND US Gold £25.99 *****
8 (5) FANTASY WORLD DIZZY Code Masters £6.99 ****
9 (1) MANCHESTER UNITED EUROPE Krisalis £25.99 ****
10 (NE) CABAL Hit Squad £7.99 ***

11 (7) PGA TOUR GOLF
Electronic Arts £25.99 *****
12 (15) NINJA RABBITS Micro Value £6.99 *
13 (3) F-15 STRIKE EAGLE II
MicroProse £29.99 *****
14 (6) LOMBARD RAC RALLY
Hit Squad £7.99 ***
15 (12) EYE OF THE BEHOLDER
US Gold £30.99 *****
16 (8) XENON 2 Mirror Image £9.99 ****
17 (NE) SHINOBI Mastertronic £7.99 **
18 (34) RAINBOW COLLECTION
Ocean £29.99 *****
19 (16) DEFENDER OF THE CROWN
Mirror Image £9.99 ***
20 (9) PRO BOXING Code Master £7.99 *
21 (NE) BLOOD MONEY Sizzlers £9.99 **
22 (64) IMPOSSAMOLE GBH £7.99 *
23 (31) THE GAMES – SUMMER EDITION
Kixx £7.99 **
24 (NE) CRUISE FOR A CORPSE
US Gold £27.99 *****
25 (14) LITTLE PUFF Code Masters £6.99 **
26 (69) RED HEAT Hit Squad £7.99 *
27 (26) ARMOUR-GEDDON
Psygnosis £25.99 ****
28 (19) TREASURE ISLAND DIZZY
Code Masters £4.99 ****
29 (29) ROCKET RANGER
Mirror Image £9.99 ***
30 (NE) FOOTBALLER OF THE YEAR 2
GBH £7.99 **
31 (21) WATERLOO Mirror Image £9.99 **
32 (53) BEACH VOLLEY Hit Squad £7.99 *
33 (25) GODS Renegade £25.53 ****
34 (17) MIAMI CHASE
Code Masters £7.99 ****
35 (NE) SINBAD Mirror Image £9.99 **
36 (13) LEMMINGS Psygnosis £25.55 *****
37 (48) INTERNATIONAL KARATE +
Hit Squad £7.99 *****
38 (28) R-TYPE Hit Squad £7.99 ***
39 (18) 3D POOL Mirror Image £9.99 ****
40 (32) LIFE & DEATH
Mindscape £25.53 ***
41 (NE) CONQUEROR Kixx £7.99 ***
42 (23) RUN THE GAUNTLET
Hit Squad £7.99 *
43 (58) DUNGEONS...'N' EVERYTHIN'
Atlantis £6.99 *
44 (NE) STRIKER MANAGER
D&H Games £24.99 **
45 (30) CARRIER COMMAND
Mirror Image £9.99 *****
46 (41) KICK OFF – WINNING TACTICS
Anco £12.99 **
47 (20) TOKI Ocean £24.99 *****
48 (NE) ELF Ocean £24.99 ***
49 (79) SUPER LEAGUE Energize £7.99 **
50 (27) WORLD CLASS LEADERBOARD
Kixx £7.99 ****
51 (NE) TEST DRIVE 2 COLLECTION
Accolade £29.99 **
52 (24) HERO QUEST
Gremlin Graphics £25.99 ****
53 (63) FINAL WHISTLE Anco £12.99 ***
54 (39) CALIFORNIA GAMES Kixx £7.99 **
55 (RE) TEENAGE MUTANT HERO TURTLES
Mirrorsoft £24.99 *
56 (NE) KID GLOVES GBH £7.99 ****
57 (NE) ROBIN SMITH'S CRICKET
Challenge £25.99 *
58 (RE) BATMAN CAPED CRUSADER
Hit Squad £7.99 ***
59 (42) RAMBO III Hit Squad £7.99 *
60 (NE) WINGS OF FURY Respray £9.99 ***
61 (NE) GAUNTLET 2 Kixx £7.99 ***
62 (RE) F-19 STEALTH FIGHTER
MicroProse £29.99 ****
63 (NE) DOUBLE DOUBLE BILL
Cinemaware (Mirrorsoft) £35.99 ***
64 (NE) LAST NINJA 2 Hit Squad £7.99 **
65 (81) KICK OFF 2 Anco £24.99 *****
66 (49) CONFLICT EUROPE Mirrorsoft £24.99
67 (NE) 1943 Kixx £7.99 *
68 (54) OPERATION WOLF
Hit Squad £7.99 ***
69 (84) EURO SUPERLEAGUE
CDS £24.99 **
70 (60) DALEY THOMPSON
Hit Squad £7.99 **
71 (59) PREDATOR Hit Squad £7.99 ***
72 (45) SIM CITY/POPULOUS
Infogrames £29.99 *****
73 (66) 3D CONSTRUCTION KIT
Domark £49.99 ****
74 (37) CJ'S ELEPHANT ANTICS
Code Master £6.99 **
75 (40) SUPERCARS 2
Gremlin Graphics £19.99 ****
76 (NE) RODLAND Storm £25.99 *****
77 (56) SPEEDBALL Mirror Image £9.99 *****
78 (RE) HARPOON Mirrorsoft £29.99 **
79 (33) RAILROAD TYCOON
MicroProse £34.99 ****
80 (97) SUPER HANG-ON
Hit Squad £7.99 ****
81 (57) NAVY SEALS Ocean £24.99 ***
82 (62) CENTURION Electronic Arts £25.99 ***
83 (NE) BRIGADE COMMANDER
Electronic Zoo £25.99 ***
84 (44) VIOLATOR Code Masters £7.99 ***
85 (22) SWITCHBLADE 2
Gremlin Graphics £25.99 *****
86 (NE) SKYCHASE Mirror Image £9.99 **
87 (NE) OUTRUN Klassix £7.99 **
88 (85) ASTERIX Electronic Zoo £7.99 *
89 (RE) VIZ Virgin £24.99 **
90 (NE) GRANDSTAND Domark £29.99 **
91 (RE) LOTUS TURBO Gremlin £24.99 ***
92 (RE) SUPER SCRAMBLE SIMULATOR
Kixx £9.99 *
93 (65) MOONWALKER Kixx £7.99 *
94 (RE) AMOS Europress Software £49.99 ***
95 (50) THREE STOOGES Mirrorsoft £9.99 **
96 (RE) WHEELS OF FIRE Domark £29.99 ***
97 (55) SPEEDBALL 2 Mirrorsoft £24.99 *****
98 (RE) DOUBLE DRAGON
Mastertronic £9.99 **
99 (NE) VIRTUAL REALITY 1 Elite £34.99 ***
100 (RE) FORGOTTEN WORDS Kixx £7.99 **

We figure you must have some idea how the charts work by now, so briefly: they're put together by Gallup, they mix budgies and full pricies together, games are rated in stars, and they're © ELSPA.

WATCH OUT FOR WHITE

Core's chart-topping position may be well deserved, but we fear it's short lived. *Jimmy White's Whirlwind Snooker* has already been despatched to happy retailers in every corner of the nation, and they're all reporting record sales.



***Jimmy White's Whirlwind Snooker*: Could this become the best selling Amiga game ever?**

Expect to see Mr White topping the chart next month, and don't expect to see it drop out of the top 20 for at least six months.

Predictably, speculation is already growing that a sequel is being prepared. Virgin are far too busy to be working on such a project at the moment, and author Archer MacLean is up to his ears in the PC version.

Snooker II is probably on the table, but it won't be arriving for at least a year.

YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING!

It's fascinating to see *Kid Gloves* making a chart entry as a budget re-release, especially as the whole game was given away on AMIGA POWER's coverdisk just six months ago.

That Kid and his gloves just keep on coming, despite his winning performance on an early AMIGA POWER coverdisk.

It's hard to believe that a game like *Kid Gloves* could have performed much better if the coverdisk experience had never happened (Mirror Image's *Skychase*, say, was released on budget around the same time as *Kid* and entered the chart 24 places below it).

What can we tell from this? Well, for one thing, it does tend to punch rather a big hole in the ELSPA argument that full game coverdisk offers are detrimental to the sales of games. In this instance, the EXACT SAME GAME which cost just £2.95 with a magazine six months ago is now doing very well indeed in the charts at over twice the price!

So what's the explanation? Well, simply that the games-buying audience has a fairly short memory – *Kid* may have been better value six months ago, but it's still a barg at £7.99 today. ●